

## ROARING GUNS

THEY MARK ROBERTS'S ADVANCE  
TO THE VET RIVER.British Troops Pushed Forward All  
Along the Line, and the Boers  
Driven from Strong Positions.

BURGER JUNCTION PREVENTED

HAMILTON INTERFERED WITH A  
WELL-TIMED CAVALRY CHARGE.Paget Stopped a Flank Movement at  
Warrenton, Designed to Check  
General Barton's Advance.

THE FIGHTING AT ROODAN

BARTON CARRIED SEVERAL RIDGES  
AT POINT OF BAYONET.Randell's Artillery Drove the Dutch-  
men at Thaba N'Chu-Gallantry of  
a Colonial Detachment.

LONDON, May 7, 4:10 a. m.—Lord Roberts is making better progress than any one has dared to hope, and is meeting with success at all points. The only news of the actual occupation of Winburg is the incidental reference to it in the dispatch from Vet river, describing General Poy-Carew's operations, but as the latest news of General Hamilton's operations, dated Sunday morning, was that he was then preparing to force the difficult passage over Little Vet river, on the Bloemfontein-Winburg road, there can be no doubt that the news of occupation is accurate.

The Boers, following their customary practice, had evacuated their positions on the Vet river during Saturday night. As Lord Roberts, advancing along the railway, and General Hamilton twenty miles to the east, threatened the two wings of the Boer force, it would not be surprising to hear that they had also evacuated Winburg.

General Hamilton's advance will prevent the Boer forces in the direction of Thaba N'Chu joining their main army near Winburg. General Rundle, on Saturday, had arrived in pursuit of the Boers, seven miles north of Thaba N'Chu, compelling the Boers to retire in an easterly direction. A Boer account of the capture of Brandfort says: "The federal forces, although weak in numbers, offered strong resistance, but they were forced by the overwhelming force opposed to them to evacuate the town."

General Hunter's progress, although slow, is satisfactory. The idea that the relief of Mafeking is in sight, however, appears to have been premature, as the Boers in that quarter are still stoutly resisting the British advance.

According to a dispatch to the Daily Mail from Cape Town, a special expedition to the westward left for Kimberley a few days ago and will endeavor to relieve Mafeking while General Hunter and Lord Methuen are operating on either side of the Vaal river, in conjunction with Lord Roberts's army.

From Lourenco Marques come various rumors that Colonel Plummer has been reinforced and is again advancing toward Mafeking. Another report says that Mafeking has been relieved and General Lomax, with 3,000 Boers, captured at Fourteen Streams.

Women have been placed in the government offices in order to relieve the burghers for active service.

Two New South Wales lancers, who escaped from Waterburg prison, have arrived at Delagoa bay after a dangerous journey. The Volksraad will meet in Pretoria today. Probably the sitting will be memorable.

The Johannesburg shell factory has resumed work with Austrian, Italian and Greek workmen.

Free States Demoralized.

LONDON, May 7, 4:10 p. m.—The Times, telegraphing Sunday, says: "General Botha has been to the Free State to rouse the burghers, but has returned disheartened and disgusted. From an unimpeachable source I learn that he has openly stated to his friends that the Free States are so completely demoralized that it is hopeless to expect anything from them."

REPORT BY ROBERTS.

Heavy Engagements All Along the  
Line of the Upper Vaal.

LONDON, May 7, 4:10 p. m.—The War Office has published the following dispatch from Lord Roberts, dated Vet river, Saturday, May 5, 7:15 p. m.: "I marched here today with Poy-Carew's division, and headquarters and Wavell's brigade, of the Seventh Division, is two miles in the rear. Maxwell's brigade, of the same division, is the same distance to our right.

"The enemy are in considerable strength on the opposite bank of the river. Our guns engaged theirs for some three hours without being able to force a passage of the river, but shortly before dusk the mounted infantry, under General Hutton, turned the enemy's right and in a very dashing manner pushed across the river under heavy shell and musketry fire. We are now bivouacking for the night within three miles of Vet river. Our casualties, I hope, are not numerous.

"Hamilton was in action yesterday and succeeded in preventing a junction of two Boer forces by a well-executed movement by some of the Household Cavalry, the Twelfth Lancers and Kitchener's Horse, who charged a body of the enemy and inflicted serious loss. The enemy fled, leaving their dead on the field and their wounded to be attended by our doctors.

"McDonald's Highland Brigade dislodged the enemy on the right bank, under cover of the naval guns, in which operation the Black Watch distinguished themselves and were very skillfully led.

"Hamilton was advancing this morning to a difficult drift over the Klein Vet river. Hunter reports that Barton's brigade was heavily engaged this morning, two miles north of Roodan. The enemy's position was quite four miles long and strongly held. He states that our men marched magnificently and carried ridge after ridge in grand style. Casualties in

this force in Hamilton's and Hunter's will be reported as soon as possible.

"Captain Miller, who was taken prisoner near Thaba N'Chu, has been sent to Rundle's camp by the enemy, with a severe wound in the abdomen.

"Brabant reports that one sergeant and three men were captured on May 2, while on patrol, and that one of them, who had been brutally ill treated and left for dead by the Boers, was found the following day.

"Lieutenant Lilley, Victoria Mounted Rifles, reported missing, was found at Brandfort dangerously wounded, and has been most carefully attended by the Netherlands ambulance."

Flanked the Boer Position.  
VET RIVER, Sunday, May 6.—Yesterday the British, after a long march, encountered the Boers holding Vet river with six guns, two being of long range. An artillery duel ensued. Meanwhile General Hutton, after a sharp engagement, crossed the river on the left just before sunset. The Boers retreated during the night.

General Poy-Carew started at day-break yesterday on a nineteen-mile march. He first came into contact with the Boers holding the river at a place called Poy-Carew's. The British had two batteries in action and later they added two naval nine-pounders, two 4.7 and a five-inch siege gun. The Boers fired with great accuracy, and the duel continued unabated with a terrible din, until sunset, and even later there was desultory firing. It is marvelous that nobody on the British side was injured.

General Hutton started early to find the drift on the west. When this was discovered it proved to be strongly held and protected by two guns. The British speedily engaged the Boers, who enfiladed the dismounted firing line with a Maxim, but General Hutton pushed forward his own pom-pom and a galloping Maxim and forced the Boers to leave the river bed. The encounter was terribly hot. Later the whole British force crossed the river, threatening the Boer right.

The Boers must have received about the same time news of General Hamilton's occupation of Winburg.

About sunset a detachment of twenty-six Australians, who had crept unseen toward the river bed, found themselves near a kopje, and after a short fight, they fired bayonets and charged, capturing the kopje. All was done on their own initiative.

Thus night fell. Early this morning it was discovered that the whole Boer force had fled. General Hutton during the night got two squadrons to blow up the line near Swalsd.

The British discovered the railway concealed small parties of high explosive. The Boers had destroyed three bridges over spruits between here and Brandfort, but in every case it was possible to make a detour.

The Boers appear to be fighting with much less spirit. It is reported that they are commanded by General Lucas Meyer.

The bridge over the Vet river is completely destroyed.

General Hutton captured a Maxim and took twelve prisoners.

Boers Evacuate Two Towns.

WARRENTON, Sunday, May 6.—Yesterday General Barton drove from 2,000 to 3,000 Boers from hill positions at Roodan, where they awaited them. They retreated after stiff fighting, leaving a number of dead on the field. The British casualties were slight. General Barton is still pursuing.

Windsor and Klipdam have been evacuated.

General Paget's brigade is attacking the Boer position at Warrenton.

The engagement yesterday was severe and lasted for 9 in the morning until 4 p. m. More than 1,000 Boers were killed and were obliged to engage the Boers at close quarters, and the Boers only retired when retreat was nearly cut off.

The British losses were five killed and twenty-five wounded—mostly Welsh Fusiliers. The British took a batch of prisoners, including the Swedish ambulance, which they allowed to return. The Boers in their hurried retreat left thirteen dead.

General Paget made a strong demonstration against the Boer position east of the bridge, thereby preventing reinforcements going to assist in checking General Barton's advance.

Forced the Line with Artillery.

THABA N'CHU, Saturday, May 5.—Gen. Rundle, who has been pursuing the Boers with the Seventeenth Brigade, two batteries and contingents of the Yeomanry and mounted infantry, succeeded in forcing them to leave their position. The Yeomanry are making a long detour in pursuit. The result is not yet known here.

NO LONGER PRO-BOR.

Unpleasant Experience Caused Conversion of a Noted Rabbi.

NEW YORK, May 6.—The Rev. Dr. Joseph H. Hertz, who was rabbi of the Witwatersrand Hebrew congregation of Johannesburg until last December, when he was expelled from the Transvaal by President Kruger, arrived here on the steamer Etoria today.

"I went to the Transvaal a strong pro-Bor," said he, "and spoke on many a public occasion in favor of the Transvaal government, but an insight into the Transvaal methods and an acquaintance with the leading officials within the Transvaal and Free State, as well as my personal experience while trying to remove the obnoxious religious disabilities under which the Catholics and the Jews suffer, gradually compelled me to see that the Transvaal is not a republic, but rather an oligarchy, misgoverned on strictly medieval principles.

"At the outbreak of the war, I uttered the words: 'Let President Kruger demand of the Catholic inhabitant, of the Jewish inhabitant of the state, everything he has a right to demand of his own burghers. We would give up everything. Willingly, joyfully we would sacrifice everything with the exception of our faith, our principles, our truth and our honor, but we will not sacrifice our faith and our honor, because the heroes of Holland and sturdy men who have presided at the birth of this republic have not taught us that by sacrificing these things we would become worthy members of the Transvaal republic.'

"For this sentiment I was called upon to apologize. I was ordered to withdraw it. I refused and, although an American citizen, I was expelled."

DAVIS WANTS INTERVENTION.

Hundred Thousand Americans Wanted to Fight Great Britain.

NEW YORK, May 6.—Webster Davis, former assistant secretary of the Interior, spoke at a meeting at the Academy of (CONTINUED ON SECOND PAGE)

## ROCK OF FAITH

IT IS ABSOLUTELY UNCHANGED IN  
THE METHODIST CHURCH.Constitutional Commission Declares  
Against Amendment or Change of  
the Sect's Cornerstone.

REVOKE, ALTER OR CHANGE

THINGS THE GENERAL CONFERENCE  
HAS NO POWER TO DO.Heretics Must Get Out of the Method-  
ist Fellowship in the Future as  
They Have in the Past.

CHICAGO PULPITS OCCUPIED

BISHOPS AND VISITING MINISTERS  
PREACHED SERMONS YESTERDAY.Review of the Life and Work of  
James M. Thoburn, Bishop of India  
and the Pacific Islands.

CHICAGO, May 6.—The report of the constitutional commission of the Methodist General Conference, which probably will be presented this week, will call for the continued maintenance of the religion of John Wesley. The episcopacy may be abandoned and other constitutional features changed, but the articles of religion, the doctrines of the church, are to be retained in their purity. The heretic of the future must leave the church as he has done in the past. Methodism will not accept any departure from the theology of the fathers. The provision for the safeguarding of the tenets of Wesley is found in Article II, providing for amendments. The provision is as follows:

"The concurrent recommendation of two-thirds of all the members of the several conferences present and voting, and of two-thirds of all members of the lay electoral conferences present and voting, shall suffice to authorize the next ensuing General Conference, by a two-thirds vote, to alter or amend any of the provisions of this constitution, excepting Section I, Article 10."

The section is as follows: "The General Conference shall not revoke, alter nor change any articles of religion, nor establish any new standards or rules of doctrine."

The report of the commission provides that the constitution shall consist of the articles of religion, general rules and the sections of the General Conference law. The special advice is not included in the organic law. This disposes of the controversy over the second specification, "Let all our people be exhorted to conform to the spirit of the apostolic precept."

The changes in the section of the Book of Discipline devoted to the General Conference are very slight, and in the direction of amplification. The commission, anticipating equal lay representation, has incorporated it in the proposed constitution.

Methodist bishops and ministers occupied the pulpits of the Chicago churches of that denomination today. None of the sermons were there any references to the questions before the General Conference.

In the business of the week the delegates to the General Conference face a situation that may mark new courses for the future, and, whichever way the vital questions are settled, will leave effects on the machinery of the great church. There are four questions of popular interest, any one of which may be brought up during this week. They are:

The amendment question, the five-year limit of pastorate, the consolidating of the Christian Advocates, the consolidation of benevolent societies.

The Methodists will have a busy week. There is the general session each morning, and in the afternoon are six and seven committee meetings. The evenings will be occupied with receptions and socials.

The political aspect of the conference will begin to shape itself this week. Elections may come about May 15, and in the meantime it will become more and more evident who are the leading candidates. Eight men have been mentioned prominently for bishops, but only the committee on episcopacy has held a number of sessions; these will be little to indicate how many new bishops there are to be.

THOBURN'S GREAT WORK.

Life and Labors of the Bishop of India  
and of Malaysia.

Special to the Indianapolis Journal.  
CHICAGO, May 6.—One of the compensations of the afternoon of life is the opportunity to compare speed time with the harvest, or the sowing amidst discouragements and the growing with the promise of greater results, whether one be a part of the events or only an interested onlooker. It seems but yesterday, though it is a few weeks over forty-one years, since the Methodists of Indianapolis met in old Roberts Chapel to bid farewell to a young man, the Rev. Joseph H. Downey, and his wife, who were to leave the next day on mission-aries to India, neither of them ever to return. Two and a half years before the Rev. William Butler, of the New England Conference, had gone to India to explore the country with reference to the possibility of establishing a mission under the auspices of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Within a year he reported an open door, with promise, and sent a request that a young married man be sent as soon as possible. Dr. Durbin, the missionary secretary, called for volunteers through the church papers. This farewell occasion was the outcome of that call. Mr. Downey was born in New Albany, but his home at the time was Indianapolis. He had married an educated young woman, Miss Minnie Rockwell, of Illinois. Being a brother of Mrs. John A. Brouse and of James E. Downey, of Indianapolis, there was a local interest in him besides the interest which moved him to the consecration.

Meanwhile three other young men with wives had volunteered and one young man unmarried, the Rev. James M. Thoburn, who was ultimately to become the leader, not of that little company only, but of almost an innumerable host to follow. It is

the presence of this young man at this General Conference, now Bishop Thoburn, "bishop of India and Malaysia," only sixty-four years old, measured by the calendar, but much older, measured by achievements and experiences. He is in feeble health and it is doubtful whether he will be able to return to his field of labor and of triumph. To me, at least, he is the most picturesque character present. How much this estimate may be due to the quasi touch I have so long had with him, through the Indiana contributions to his missionary band, I do not undertake to say, but, independent of all this, he has a record that no other man has or ever can have, because the conditions which developed him can hardly ever be duplicated.

A NATIVE OF OHIO.  
He was born in Ohio in 1836. His educational advantages were only such as in those days came to young men of will. His father died when he was quite young, and he literally "worked his way" through Allegheny College by teaching school and other self-reliant methods, and he was graduated in 1857. He at once entered the post-graduate Methodist school of that period and was sent to a large circuit at a salary of \$100 per year and board, the boarding to be with the people of his flock, wherever he went.

He had a long and successful life, so that wherever he and his saddlebags were together he was at home. He read the call for volunteers to India and his heart was drawn in that direction, so that when Dr. Durbin and Bishop James visited the Ohio Conference in the fall of 1888 they found a receptive youth, twenty-two years of age, ready to their hand, and he at once began to prepare for his life work. The band could not be got together before April, 1889, when he and the four others, all with wives but him, sailed for Calcutta. It was September before they reached their destination. They were met there by Dr. Butler, the explorer, and were at once assigned to their respective "stations."

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It is no part of the purpose of this paper to detail the experiences of these missionaries, separated from each other in that land of strangers, though I may, as a matter of local interest to the readers of the Journal say that Mr. Downey was sent to Lucknow. Here his principal work was the opening of a school. He lived only two or three years, but his school lives on and, as becoming, hardly as an accident but as a logical sequence, the daughter of our townsmen, Capt. (Mrs.) W. F. Brouse, a member of the board of the school, is today one of the teachers in that Lucknow college, after forty years. Such are the coincidences if not the sequences of life. Later Mr. Thoburn married the widow of Mr. Downey, thus more conspicuously allying him with Indianapolis Methodism. But that mission field was to have another bond of union to us. The work grew great and the women's foreign missionary society was organized and among the first to volunteer was Miss Jennie Tinsley, of Indianapolis, a sister of the Rev. Charles W. Tinsley, the present pastor of Fletcher Place M. E. Church, Indianapolis. After the death of the wife of Missionary Waugh she was married to him. Mr. Waugh's health failing, he and his wife are now residing at Delawara, O., with two daughters training for the missionary field.

Mr. Thoburn's first appointment was to Nainital, a beautiful mountain city on the lower slopes of the Himalayas, 5,000 feet above sea level. Here, in sight of eternal snow, he began his life work. The Sepoy rebellion, from which Mr. Butler had suffered, and his wife are now residing at Delawara, O., with two daughters training for the missionary field.

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## FUSION BARRED

J. PARKER SPEAKS FOR THE MID-  
ROAD POPULIST PARTY.He Says the Sioux City Convention Is  
a Very Small Tail to Bryan's Dem-  
ocratic Airship.

REAL THING AT CINCINNATI

TRUE POPULISTS WILL MEET THERE  
AND NOMINATE A TICKET.Gen. Weaver Denies Interview Con-  
cerning Himself and a Portfolio in  
Mr. Bryan's Cabinet.

DEMOCRATS AT KANSAS CITY

COMMITTEE LOOKS OVER GROUND  
AND DISCUSSES PROSPECTS.Illinois Republican Convention Will  
Meet at Peoria Tuesday-Gossip  
Concerning the Candidates.

CINCINNATI, May 6.—The advance workers for the national convention of the middle-of-the-road Populists, which will meet here Wednesday afternoon, arrived today. They are all opposed to fusion and almost everything else that has any connection with other political parties. Joe A. Parker, secretary of the national committee of the middle-of-the-roads, has had his headquarters here at the Denison for some weeks, while arranging for the convention. He was joined by many others today.

They all claim that they represent a large majority of the People's party, that in the contests at State conventions the Sioux Falls fusionists carried less than 300 of the 75 delegates, and that the convention at Sioux Falls, this week, will be one of ex-cursionists, with a minority of delegates, as over two-thirds of the delegates were instructed by their States for the Cincinnati convention, which will keep in the middle of the road, and not be sidetracked in the interest of anybody or any party.

They call attention to the fact that their call is in accordance with the Omaha law of 1892, excluding all officeholders, and charge that the Sioux Falls convention is in charge of Senators Butler, Allen and Pettigrew, and other officeholders, the same as the Republican and Democratic conventions.

"It is well recognized by all people," said Secretary Parker, "whether they be Populists or not, that the Cincinnati convention represents the real Populist movement. It is equally well known that the Sioux Falls convention is simply an adjunct to the Democratic party. This accounts for the unanimity with which Populists in every section have repudiated the call for the latter convention and endorsed the Cincinnati movement. We are confident of an attendance fully as great as the capacity of our hall, and it is claimed that Robinson's Opera House will seat 2,500 people."

WILL EMERSON BRYAN.  
Mr. Parker said: "The Sioux Falls convention would not deliver a vote to Bryan that would not go to him as the regular Democratic nominee. Any action that the Sioux Falls convention may take will only embarrass Bryan and give his enemies in the Democratic party an opportunity to hammer him. He would be much stronger as a thorough Democratic candidate than as a fusionist, and if the leaders of the Sioux Falls convention were really for Bryan they would go about the matter in a way to accomplish his election. They would openly join the Democratic party and help to elect its nominee. But they are not so much for Bryan as they are for themselves, and they are working the fusion racket more with an eye to getting Democratic support for the State and other offices, and expect to hold, than for any love for Bryan. This idea was boldly argued in the committee on resolutions at Raleigh, N. C. Mr. Bryan is in more danger to-day from these friends than he is from the middle-of-the-roads."

Asked about the charge of Senator Pettigrew that Senator Hanna was helping the convention, Mr. Parker said:

"It is false. The fusion leaders see that the People's party has repudiated them. This has driven them to the extremity of trying to impugn the motives of those behind our movement. We expect nothing else but a campaign of slander, but we propose to meet it as it deserves. In truth, this whole work has been accomplished, and all expenses of the convention paid with \$700, the amount contributed by the convention league of Cincinnati. The fusionists bunched Sioux Falls out of \$5,000, which will make their delegates cost over \$20 a head, I should judge; but we were unable to get anything more than \$700. Of course, all of us who have done the preliminary work have worked without remuneration, and we have had to dispense with music and all extras and limit ourselves to bare necessities, but we are here for business and not to cut a swell, and propose to do the best we can. But it does make us a little angry to have the fusionists parading such a statement before the public, and leading people to believe that we have a barrel of money. I wrote Senator Pettigrew the facts, over a week ago, and asked that he set us right, but up to this time I have heard nothing from him. It does seem strange that any man holding an office, secured at the sacrifice of his party's purity and independence, should throw out slurs at other people who do not see things as he does. Senator Pettigrew is up for re-election in South Dakota, this year, and I do not think it will help his chances much to throw mud at true Populists."

Dr. Clem Deaver, chairman, and Jo A. Parker, secretary of the middle-of-the-road national committee were in conference tonight with James H. Farris, editor of the Joliet (Ill.) News; J. E. Bodenhamer, editor of the Dalton (Ga.) Herald, and others, who are here for the national meeting to-morrow of the National Reform Press Association.

Denver is editor of the True Populist at Omaha, Neb., and Parker is at Dallas, W. Va. Marsh, of the Kentucky committee, and Joe Wheeler, of the Ohio committee, were in the conference. They are all opposed to fusion, and for a midroad course only. The Oregon delegates arrived to-night. Two

large Texas delegation spent Sunday in St.

Louis, and will be here in the morning.

Bryan and Towne the Ticket.  
CHICAGO, May 6.—The Chronicle to-morrow will say: "Bryan and Towne—that was the way the probable Democratic, Populistic and Silver Republican national ticket was framed up as the result of a conference yesterday afternoon between leaders of the three parties at the Sherman House. The presidential nomination was not discussed, as being a foregone conclusion, but when the conferees had dived into the puzzle of the vice presidential situation, Charles A. Towne, of Duluth, stood on a pinnacle that dwarfed other possibilities.

"The Populist representatives at the conference were Senator Marion Butler, of South Carolina, chairman of his party's national committee; Gen. J. B. Weaver, of Iowa, and Congressman George Shibley, of Virginia. The Silver Republicans were represented by Senator Pettigrew, of South Dakota.

"Mr. Towne, though chairman of the Lincoln Republican national committee, did not attend the meeting, owing to the position in which he stood regarding the matter under discussion.

"The Democratic representatives were Vice Chairman James G. Johnson, of the national committee, and Daniel J. Cameron, of Detroit, national committeeman from Michigan. Colonel Bryan was not present."

Weaver Denies the Story.

CHICAGO, May 6.—General James A. Weaver, of Iowa, was in Chicago today on his way to Sioux Falls, to attend the national Populist convention. Asked about the statement attributed to him, while in Indianapolis recently, that in case of the election of Mr. Bryan he expected a Cabinet portfolio, he said he had never made such a statement—that the report was absurd, and that those who knew him best knew that he was incapable of making such a remark.

GREAT FIGHT IS ON.

Cullom and Tanner to Try Conclu-  
sions in Illinois Convention.

PEORIA, Ill., May 6.—The Republican State convention for the nomination of State officers will be held here Tuesday. Hundreds of politicians, most of them delegates, are already here. The interest in the convention is very great. Two factions are struggling for control—the Cullom faction and the Tanner-Haney faction. Senator Cullom is here in person. What Senator Cullom will ask of the convention, or whether he will ask anything, will depend on the strength made on organization. If his friends are in control, the convention will either name him as the party's candidate for Senator or instruct for him for the vice presidential nomination. No Republican State convention in Illinois has named a senatorial candidate since 1858, and the sentiment against the policy is so strong that any effort to adopt it this